

**BOROUGH OF LONGPORT WORKSHOP COMMISSION MEETING
MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024 – 4:00 PM**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 pm.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City, The Ocean City Sentinel, the Star Ledger, and Courier Post on August 16, 2024. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board, posted on the Borough of Longport website www.longportnj.gov, and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, CRS Director Funk, Library Director Gerhardt, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo stated the location of the emergency exits and discussed opportunities for public comment.

Community Rating System Director Bruce Funk provided the Governing Body with an update on the Atlantic Cape Multi-Jurisdictional Program for Public Information. He discussed signs at beach entrances to educate the public on the dune system. He discussed a public meeting recently held at Ski Beach in Ventnor and some plans for upcoming meetings. CRS Director Funk discussed some new proposed rule changes by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Agency. There was discussion regarding the signs and the potential for the signs to be stolen or damaged. There was also discussion regarding a recent letter mailed out by CRS Director Funk. He also discussed a QR Code that would provide residents with additional information.

Administrator Porter:

Administrator Porter discussed Well House #3 and noted that the motor has to be replaced at an estimated cost of \$16,000. He also noted that it was nearing the end of the season, and that beach closures during the middle of the week would soon happen as many lifeguard had returned to school.

He also discussed the Borough possibly switching to a new health insurance provider. He explained that health insurance costs are expected to increase by 16-percent. He noted that in 2023 costs increased by 24-percent, which amounted to approximately \$100,000. He said a new vendor would be coming in to discuss what it has to offer with employees. It was noted that any change in providers would have to honor what was agreed upon in union contracts. He explained that a number of municipalities have left the State Health Benefits Plan because of cost increases.

Borough Solicitor Affanato:

Borough Solicitor Affanato noted that he was contacted by Art Ponzio on behalf of Lamberti's and that Lamberti's is replacing his section of the bayside bulkhead near 36th Avenue.

Borough Engineer Dennis:

Borough Engineer Dennis provided an update on the next phase of the Atlantic Avenue 2023 State Aid Grant (27th to 32nd avenues) from the NJ Department of Transportation. He said the plans and specs are ready and waiting approval from the State. He added that once it is approved by the State, he hopes to go out to bid in October.

Mayor Russo:

Mayor Russo announced that the fireworks display was scheduled for this Saturday, August 24, with a rain/ wind date the next day on the 25th. He also announced that the Wounded Warrior Parade is scheduled for September 24, 2024.

Commissioner Leeds:

Commissioner Leeds – nothing further to report.

Commissioner Lawler:

Commissioner Lawler asked why there was a street sign in Commission Chambers. It was noted that it was a sample of the signs that would be listed on GovDeals soon. He also noted that it was a good idea to have signs on the other side of the dunes so that people would know where they are, especially at the busier beach areas. Commissioner Leeds also discussed new trash and recycling cans for the beach.

Mayor Russo noted that the Borough is slowly replacing the old cast iron street signs with new reflective signs and that there is a lot of interest in purchasing the old signs.

Fire Chief Clayton also thought having signs on the beach side of the dunes was a good idea in the event of an emergency as this would help people identify where they are located.

Municipal Clerk Kyle:

Municipal Clerk Kyle announced that the deadline to file petitions to run as a candidate for the office of Borough of Longport Board of Commissioners is tomorrow, August 22, 2024, at 4 pm.

Miscellaneous:

None.

Motion to Adjourn – Commissioner Leeds, seconded by Commissioner Lawler. All in Favor – Yes. None Opposed. Meeting adjourned at 4:23 pm.

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MUNICIPAL BUILDING, 2305 ATLANTIC AVE
LONGPORT, NJ 08403
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2024**

The meeting was called to order with the flag salute at 4:24 pm.

Municipal Clerk Kyle read the Opening Statement pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act. A notice of this meeting was emailed to the Press of Atlantic City, The Ocean City Sentinel, the Star Ledger and Courier Post on August 16, 2024. In addition, copies of notices were posted on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building, posted on the Borough website www.longportnj.gov, and filed in the office of the municipal clerk. Notices on the bulletin board have remained continuously posted. Official action may be taken at this meeting.

ROLL CALL:	Nicholas Russo	present
	James P. Leeds, Sr.	present
	Daniel Lawler	present

Borough Solicitor Affanato, Administrator Porter, CFO Kelly, Engineer Dennis, CRS Director Funk, Library Director Gerhardt, and Municipal Clerk Kyle also present.

Mayor Russo noted that the emergency exit information had been previously announced and provided public comment opportunities.

Approval of Minutes:

Municipal Clerk Kyle requested a motion to approve the minutes from the July 17, 2024, Workshop and Regular Commission Meeting. Commissioner Leeds made a motion, seconded by Commission Lawler, to approve the minutes. All in Favor - ALL AYES. None opposed.

Public Comment or questions on listed Consent Agenda Resolutions: R2024-99 through R2024-110:

There were no comments or questions from the public on the Consent Agenda Resolutions.

A motion was made by Mayor Russo, seconded by Commissioner Lawler, to adopt the Consent Agenda. All in Favor - All Ayes. None Opposed.

RESOLUTIONS – CONSENT AGENDA Resolution R2024-99 through R2024-110:

Number	Title
2024-99	Chapter 159 – Budget Insertion for Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over – Holiday Crackdown MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-100	Authorizing the Disposal of All Terrain Vehicle (ATV) No Longport Suitable or Needed for Public Use MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-101	A Resolution Authorizing the Disposal of Surplus Property MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

2024-102	Resolution Authorizing Award of Contract for a 2025 Chevy Tahoe Using the Bergen County Co-Op MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-103	A Resolution Appointing Members of the Green Team Advisory Committee MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-104	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing the Cancellation of Grant Appropriated Reserves MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-105	Resolution of the Borough of Longport, County of Atlantic, State of New Jersey, Authorizing a Shared Services Agreement with the Atlantic County Improvement Authority MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-106	Authorizing Emergency Work to A.C. Shultes of Woodbury Heights, N.J., for New Motor Replacement – Well #3 MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-107	Chapter 159 – Budget Insertion for NJ Department of Transportation FY 2023 Municipal Road Program MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-108	Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers of Egg Harbor Township, NJ, for Professional Engineering Services for the Fiscal Year 2023 NJDOT Municipal Aid Reconstruction of Atlantic Avenue and Relocation of Water Services at Longport Gardens MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-109	Authorizing a Non-Fair and Open Professional Services Contract with Remington & Vernick Engineers of Egg Harbor Township, NJ, for Professional Engineering Services for the 23 rd Avenue Utility Services MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.
2024-110	Approval of Change Order Number 2 – Final FY 2021 State Aid Road Improvements to Atlantic Avenue MOTION – RUSSO, SECOND- LAWLER, All AYES- none opposed.

BILL LIST

Commissioner Leeds asked if there were any questions on the Bill List. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY REPORT

Commissioner Leeds asked if there were any questions on the Financial Summary Report. There were none. MOTION – LEEDS, SECOND – RUSSO. ALL IN FAVOR - ALL AYES. NONE OPPOSED.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

SOLICITOR'S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

ENGINEER'S REPORT:

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONERS REPORTS:

MAYOR RUSSO

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LEEDS

Nothing further to report.

COMMISSIONER LAWLER

Nothing further to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Claire Silva of Longport expressed concern with children and adults riding bikes in the Borough without helmets. She noted that it was a State law that children under the age of 18 must wear a helmet. She also noted that when kids are riding their bikes at night, it is difficult to see them and suggested the possibility of reflective vests. She noted that there are many bicyclists sustaining brain injuries, some resulting in death and expressed her concern about the children. She discussed an education campaign to remind children to wear helmets. She also requested that the helmet law be enforced. Mayor Russo explained that it is difficult to legislate common sense.

She also expressed concern regarding the bulkhead at 14th Avenue and the bay. She said it was in dire need of repair. Administrator Porter said that the bulkhead is scheduled for repair and is awaiting permission from the Governing Body to move forward with the process.

Ms. Silva also discussed numerous potholes on 14th Avenue. Administrator Porter said he would contact Public Works to take a look at them.

Ms. Silva also expressed concern with the upcoming fireworks display, adding that they are dangerous to fish. She wanted the Governing Body to take this into consideration.

Bob English of Longport asked Solicitor Affanato for an update regarding the new Affordable Housing regulations from the Department of Community Affairs. Solicitor Affanato explained that he discussed this with the Longport Planning and Zoning Board Planner Morrisey, while he could not provide specific details from that discussion due to attorney-client privilege, he explained that the Borough is in compliance with Affordable Housing. Solicitor Affanato noted that the new laws are mostly geared towards municipalities with available developable land. He noted that the Borough really does not have the land available with the exception of, maybe the Church of the Epiphany and Borough Hall.

Mr. English requested an update on the McGee Estate Park and questioned if the neighbors were still paying for the park's improvements. Administrator Porter explained that the Borough is waiting for a survey to be completed of the area and then things can move forward. He explained that the neighbors were still onboard and added that the Borough was awarded a \$64,000 grant for the new park area.

Mr. English noted that at a previous meeting the Borough adopted a resolution to oppose the installation of an offshore windfarm. He asked if the Borough planned on providing financial support to fight the project. Commissioner Lawler noted a decision has not been made yet.

Mr. English expressed concern regarding the intersection at Oberon Avenue near the Thomas B. Reed Park near 28th Avenue adding that he almost witnessed an accident occur there. He felt that the traffic pattern needs to be looked at. He noted that he has expressed concern about this intersection at a previous meeting. Commissioner Leeds expressed concern that the traffic light at 29th Avenue is too long. Engineer Dennis said he reached out to the County regarding the traffic light.

Mr. English also requested that SLEO officers that see pedestrians in the bike lanes should remind them to please use the sidewalk.

Patrick Armstrong of Longport thanked all for an excellent and safe summer. He also noted that Margate recently switched health insurance providers and that employees are happy with the new company. He also supported the idea of street signs on the beach side.

Mr. Armstrong noted that he supported informing the public of the new law to replace lead/galvanized service pipes and that property owners should be advised to replace the pipes as a first step to help save taxpayers' money.

Ricky Gerhardt of the Longport Public Library thanked the Longport Volunteer Fire Department, Longport Beach Patrol and the Longport Public Works Department for all their help with the library beach bonfire concert.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION – COMMISSIONER LEEDS, SECOND – COMMISSIONER LAWLER. All AYES- none opposed.
Adjournment – 4:44 pm.